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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
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Volume XXXV.....No. 214

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WOOD'S MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE, Broadway, cor-
ner Thirtieth St.—Performances every afternoon and evening.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and
42d St.—SIXTH THEATRE.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—
FIVE O'CLOCK OPERA.BOVARY THEATRE, Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAIN-
MENT.THEATRE OMNIA, 218 Broadway.—COMIC VOCA-
LISM, NEGRO ACTS, &c.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—VARI-
ETY ENTERTAINMENT—COMIC VOCALES, &c.SAN FRANCISCO MINERAL HALL, 256 Broadway.—
BROOKLYN'S SEVEN-STAR.CENTRAL PARK GARDEN, 7th St., between 5th and
6th Sts.—THEODORE'S FAMOUS CONCERTS.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 218 Broadway.—
BOVARY AND ART.DR. KATIN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 76 Broadway.—
BOVARY AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, August 2, 1870.

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ANOTHER MISSISSIPPI EXPLOSION.—The frequency of accidents on the Mississippi steamers calls to mind the old traditional horrors when captains blew up their steamers rather than be passed by another boat. The latest incident of the kind is that of the steamer Silver Spray, which exploded a few miles above Memphis, on Sunday night, killing at least twenty-one persons, and injuring a large number.

RUSSIA HONORS SEWARD.—It appears that the Russian government, on being apprised that Mr. W. H. Seward intends to visit China on the occasion of his next trip across the Continent, has tendered for his accommodation the palace of the imperial Legation at Peking for his residence while in the Chinese capital. A kindly compliment from the Czar to a distinguished American statesman; another evidence of sympathy between the great autocracy and the great republic.

CANADIAN ANNEXATION.—Our correspondent in Ottawa, Canada, gives, in an important communication which we publish to-day, an account of the progress which the idea of annexation to the United States is making among our northern neighbors, according to which it would seem that the agitation for complete separation of Canada from the British empire is on the increase. Its annexation to the United States would follow as a logical political consequence.

IN CONSERVATIVE "OLD KENTUCK," where they run up democratic majorities by the hundred thousand, Sambo voted for the first time yesterday. Strong efforts have been made to secure his aggregate vote for the republicans, but the democratic papers of the State have offered him a fair show on their side, and it is likely that his vote will be divided. In Louisville yesterday, although every darkey polled his vote, the democracy carried the city and county, and it is very probable that the untainted still hold their impregnable position in the State.

PRESIDENT GRANT, Secretary Fish and Minister Frelinghuysen are in close council at Long Branch. It is believed that Frelinghuysen intends to decline the mission to England. If such is the case it is to be hoped that Motley will return home, and that no Minister will be appointed at all to the English Court. We do not need anybody there in that capacity, for there is no great question pending between ourselves and the English nation that can be settled by diplomacy. Discussion on the Alabama claims is no longer allowable, and consular agents can do the necessary routine work of the mission.

The Latest Phase of the War Movement.

Our European telegrams speak of a sharp skirmish between French and Prussian troops yesterday, a vigorous action of the Prussians and a repulse of the French. As yet we wait for the first great tug of war. If we can regard the blowing up of the railroad viaduct at Bliesch as a success, then Prussia has won the first victory. It is difficult to regard the blowing up of the viaduct on French soil, the more especially as the effort had to be repeated and repeated, in any other light than as the first positive triumph in the war. In this war, more than in any war which has ever been waged, the railroad is to play an important part. We cannot conceive why Napoleon was not more careful of this viaduct. Its comparatively undefended condition must be regarded as a blunder. Napoleon, it is possible, makes little of this particular; but whatever plan he may be following out it is undeniable that this railroad now destroyed might to an invading army have proved of the utmost value.

It is now, we think, clear that France means to invade Prussia and that Prussia means, in the first instance at least, to act on the defensive. The destruction of this railroad, so far as Prussia is concerned, is on this point proof conclusive. The first fight is to take place on Prussian or German soil. A special cable despatch, which we print this morning, shows that the whole country between Coblenz and Mayence is being converted into a huge entrenched camp. It is evident that from what Prussia has been able to learn of the movements of the French army she has come to the conclusion that her Rhenish province is most likely first to be attacked. The Prussian forces await the attack of the French in a triangle, formed by the Rhine, the Moselle and the Saar. The left wing rests upon the Rhine, near Sardin. The right stretches out from the Moselle, near Treves. Von Moltke, the great Prussian strategist, is reported to have said that if Napoleon had not marched upon the Rhine by the 21st July, he would never reach Mayence. Sardin, it is also said, has been recently fortified, and it is calculated that it will materially hinder the progress of the French troops. France is so strong and Prussia is so well prepared that expectation stands on tiptoe, looking out for the first general struggle. Until then it will be premature to say whose chances are best. It is safe to say that the march of the French to Berlin will not be easy. The prospect is not such as to encourage us to say that another Jena is more likely than another Leipzig or another Waterloo.

The general situation remains much as it was. We have no further news regarding Denmark. Russia is, if anything, more watchful. Spain asks explanations from France. Austria, Italy and France seem all to be plotting the ruin of the Holy Father, while they endeavor to come to an understanding regarding their common duty in this war. Great Britain is roused from one end to the other. Mr. Gladstone's speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet on Saturday shows that Great Britain, much as she loves peace, is neither unprepared nor unwilling to fight, if the necessity is laid upon her. The position of the British government is already beset with many dangers. The sentiment of the government and people, so far as it has been expressed, has been against France. If France should come out of this struggle victorious, France will not forget this. It is a curious fact that from the accession of Louis Napoleon up until the Crimean war the British people continuously trembled for and defied a French invasion. The avenging of St. Helena was known to be a Napoleonic idea. Since the Crimean war the *entente cordiale* has been but seldom and never more than slightly interrupted. Another Bonaparte triumphant in Berlin, might not Bonaparte recover something of its ancient importance, and might not another threatened invasion be the terror of the British Isles? Certain it is that the *entente cordiale* between the two empires has been disturbed. If Napoleon wins he may have something to say about "perfidious Albion." If he does not win it is not difficult to forecast the result. It is our conviction that Napoleon has no heart for this fight. He goes into it because he cannot help it. It is a necessity laid upon him. If he had not yielded to this impulse given him by the French people the French people would have turned against him and his family. If he wins the French people will bow to the fates, will call him savior and will give him a splendid opportunity to retire in favor of his son. But if he does not win—if French soldiers or the soldiers of any coalition should again encamp in the gardens of the Tuilleries—the howl against the Bonapartes will be loud and long and merciless. We witness the opening scenes of a great drama. Every fresh scene, every fresh movement, is a surprise. What is to be the end no one can tell. While we write the first fight may have decided the campaign. But we wait for news.

MART ALLEN, who was recently sentenced to the State Prison for five years, for panel thieving, has been released on five thousand dollars bail, through the ingenuity of his counsel. A new trial is to be granted him, one of the jurors confessing to a bias against him on the last one. It is a pity that there are not more courts like Judge Dowling's, where such weak inventions are unavailable for the benefit of old offenders like Mart Allen. There was no doubt of his guilt, and the law is defective if he is allowed to escape through a technicality. As to a juror being biased against him, it would speak better for our average jurymen if all of them were biased against such men as Mart.

THE EUROPEAN MAIL of the 20th of July, to hand yesterday, supplies a very valuable and interesting history of the facts which preceded the great war struggle between France and Prussia. The exhibit is published in our columns to-day. It will be exceedingly useful for future reference on questions regarding the motives and animus of great contestants, as well as of the relative positions of the neutral Powers and peoples.

Mrs. LINCOLN'S PENSION.—The Philadelphia Press says:—"Of course it is not true that Mrs. Abraham Lincoln will refuse the pension voted to her by Congress and so warmly advocated by Mrs. Grant." Mrs. Lincoln would hardly set so singular an example.

The Mysterious Murder—Judge Bedford's Charge to the Grand Jury.

The present agitation of the public mind in view of the late terrible tragedy in Twenty-third street would naturally lead us to expect that the presiding Judge of the Court of Sessions would embody the facts of this horrible murder in his message from the bench to the Grand Jury. Judge Bedford has done more than this. Without omitting the most important questions which will undoubtedly come before the Grand Jury, he dwells upon the fact that this tragedy is not a solitary instance of the depraved condition of certain portions of the community. He cites it very wisely as but an evidence of the demoralized atmosphere in which we live. He reminds the jury that every one of them "sworn as grand jurors should fully realize the condition of things in this city. The lawless class are becoming daily more daring and reckless. They must be checked in their mad career. The protection of society and the future welfare of the metropolis depend in great measure upon the prompt award of punishment for crime; and the people look to the authorities for protection. Let them not look in vain. Let every official in these trying times prove himself worthy of the people's confidence."

The people look to the police and the courts of law for protection against lawlessness and violence. Whether they have put their trust in a delusion is questionable; but there is much reason to believe they have from the criminal records of the past year or two. Murders of the most fearful character have been perpetrated in the most populous portions of the metropolis, and no criminal has been brought to justice. The Burdell tragedy, with all the train of evidence elicited at the inquest, fell through the hands of the police like water through a sieve. The assassination of Mr. Rogers in open day, at his own door, seemed to afford an ample opportunity for the exercise of detective skill; yet never was there so hopeless a blunder, and, in fact, a succession of blunders, as in that case.

Judge Bedford, in his allusion to the terrible tragedy which now convulses the entire community, congratulates the Grand Jury that the case is in the hands of a most worthy citizen and fearless official—Superintendent John Jourdan—who will use every effort to arrest and punish the cowardly murderers of Mr. Nathan. The whole community look now to Mr. Jourdan, and we trust that he will not prove unworthy of the good opinion expressed by the City Judge. The perpetrator of this brutal murder must be hunted up and brought to justice. The blood of the excellent and unoffending gentleman so cruelly slain must be avenged through the channels of justice and the law. No temporizing, no consideration for private feelings; no dawdling with vague clues and theories, come from what source they may, should be allowed to stand in the path of the detective's inflexible duty. Captain Jourdan has the machinery at work. That he is competent to reach a successful issue in the detection of the real criminal few will doubt. Let us be patient. Let us watch events and not anticipate them, accepting, meantime, the assurance of the City Judge, that every nerve will be strained in this terrible case "until the majesty of the law shall be vindicated."

French Immigration to the United States.

It is probable that statistics would show a greater French immigration to the United States on the part of representatives of skilled labor and mercantile experience than to Algeria since the conclusion of our recent civil war. In New York alone the number of French signboards, announcing every kind of industry and trade, has of late surprisingly increased. Even since the declaration of war between France and Prussia—an event which must temporarily check French as well as German immigration—it is curious to learn that one of the most extensive schemes of immigration from France is still being successfully carried out. Thus a despatch from St. Louis, which was originally a centre of French colonization, informed us yesterday of the arrival in that city of the agent of the Humanitarian Society of France, on his way to southwest Missouri in search of a location for two thousand French families. After the termination of the impending war in Europe we may expect that Frenchmen, Germans, Swedes, Norwegians, Irish, Scotch and English; in fine, Europeans of every nation, will swell the flood of immigration to an unprecedented height. With our present comparatively sparse population and our vast area of territory we can heartily welcome all, whether from Europe or from Asia, who shall seek homes in free America and aid in the development of its incalculable resources of wealth and prosperity.

MR. SEWARD has given the negroes who celebrated one of their emancipation days yesterday at Auburn some sound advice. He advised them to keep themselves free by educating themselves up to the requirements of freemen and to compass the freedom of their brothers in the West Indies, South America and Africa in the same way. The latter part of Mr. Seward's advice we think was superfluous. The emancipation of the negroes in the West Indies, in South America and in Africa is being worked out by a sharper and prompter method than education. In the West Indies it is being carved out by the sword as it was carved out here, and in South America and Africa it is being brought about by the ruling example and influence of the United States.

WALL STREET AND THE NATHAN MURDER.—It must be some slight mitigation of the great grief of Mr. Nathan's family to learn of the profound respect which was paid his memory in Wall street yesterday. The Stock Exchange was hermetically closed throughout the funeral services, and even the frivolous curbstone dealers were awed into silence by the quiet which reigned in Broad street. The remains consigned to the tomb, the Stock Exchange opened at one o'clock in the afternoon.

THE GOVERNOR has finally decided against commencing the sentence of John Neal, who will in all probability be hanged next Friday. Considerable sympathy has been excited by the courageous bearing of Neal since his sentence; but sympathies have little to do with law, and in this case, whatever one may think of Neal personally, the course of the law is as just as it is stern.

Rome—The Pope and His Infallibility—Movements of France and Austria.

In reference to the perpetuation of the temporal power of the Holy Father of Rome the proclamation of the dogma of infallibility was evidently a great mistake. We have the news from Rome that orders have been received for the concentration of the French troops of the Holy City at its airport of Civita Vecchia, with a view to their embarkation for France at a moment's notice. We have the additional news from Paris that Austria has given her sanction to the taking possession of Rome by the kingdom of Italy; and we have the news from Vienna that "the official government journal of that capital announces the abrogation of the concordat between Austria and Rome, and that the Papal government has been notified of this decisive proceeding on the part of Austria. Finally, as if fully aware of the "manifest destiny" of Rome, as foreshadowed in these significant movements, it is reported that the Holy Father, anticipating the necessity of a retirement from the Eternal City, contemplates a retreat to the British island of Malta.

In these simultaneous acts on the part of Austria and France in regard to the Pope, it is apparent that he is as a temporal ruler to be abandoned or only to be used as a make-weight with the kingdom of Italy. The old concordat between Austria and the Pope, with the numerous reforms established in the Austrian government under the administration of Von Beust, has become practically a dead letter. As it was, the authority of the Pope over the Austrian dominions, in matters of religion, education, marriages, &c., was supreme; as it is, the government of the Church is in all things subordinate to the State. The formal abrogation of the concordat, however, in consequence of the dogma of infallibility, is equivalent to a complete abandonment of the Holy Father as a